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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Scott Ronald Thomas

Serial No: 10/570,936

Filed: March 8, 2006

Dated: April 17, 2006

For: LINE TENSIONING DEVICE AND METHODS

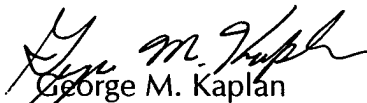
MAIL STOP PCT
Commissioner of Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER

Sir:

Enclosed is the International Preliminary Report on Patentability issued by the International Searching Authority in the priority PCT application.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: April 17, 2006


George M. Kaplan

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NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
TRANSMITTAL OF COPY OF INTERNATIONAL
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OF THE PATENT COOPERATION
TREATY)
(PCT Rule 44bis.1(c))

To:

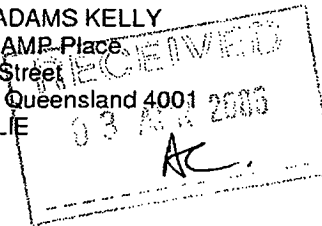
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Date of mailing (day/month/year) 23 March 2006 (23.03.2006)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference 13572PC1		IMPORTANT NOTICE
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001212	International filing date (day/month/year) 08 September 2004 (08.09.2004)	
Priority date (day/month/year) 08 September 2003 (08.09.2003)		
Applicant THOMAS, Scott, Ronald		

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

DATA ENTERED		DUE DATE(S) ENTERED	
PA	AB	DUE	__/__/__
DATE	4/4/06	DUE	__/__/__
		DUE	__/__/__

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 13572PC1	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001212	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 08 September 2004 (08.09.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 08 September 2003 (08.09.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant THOMAS, Scott, Ronald			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

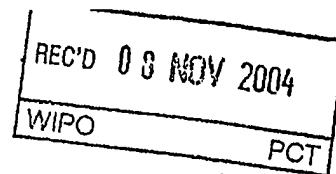
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Date of issuance of this report 13 March 2006 (13.03.2006)
	Authorized officer Dorothee Mülhausen Telephone No. +41 22 338 87 40

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY



To:

Fisher Adams Kelly
GPO Box 1413
BRISBANE QLD 4001

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year) **3 NOV 2004**

Applicant's or agent's file reference
13572PC1

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/AU2004/001212

International filing date (day/month/year)
8 September 2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
8 September 2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
Int. Cl. ⁷ F16G 11/12; B65H 77/00, 59/14; B63B 21/04; B60P 7/06; E04H 15/32

Applicant
THOMAS, Scott Ronald

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU
AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA
E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au
Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929

Authorized Officer
D.R. LUM
Telephone No. (02) 6283 2544

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001212

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001212

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 5-13, 20-21	YES
	Claims 1-4, 14-19	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 5-13, 20-21	YES
	Claims 1-4, 14-19	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-21	YES
	Claims -	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

The following documents in the International Search Report have been considered for the purposes of this report:

- (D1) DE 2927907
- (D2) AU 21476/77
- (D3) AU 20121/83
- (D4) AU 52693/98
- (D5) DE 19738936

NOVELTY (N) and INVENTIVE STEP Claims 1-4, 14-19;

- (D1) Claims 1, 3-4, 15-19
- (D2) Claims 1-3, 14-18
- (D3) Claims 1-4, 15-19
- (D4) Claims 1-2, 15, 17-18
- (D5) Claims 1, 15, 17-18

Claims 1-4, 15-18 clearly lack novelty in light of D1, D2 which are tension devices for straps and wire / rope respectively. Claim 14 lacks novelty in the light of D2 which discloses strengthening ribs (see page 3 line 3-4). Claim 19 lacks novelty in the light of D1, D3. In D1, the aperture is the slot, 5.